

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

NEA-09 AID-05 OMB-01 SAM-01 FEAE-00 EB-07 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 STR-01 CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03

LAB-04 SIL-01 /100 W

----- 127367

R 111215Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3407

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OAU RW

SUBJECT: 24TH OAU MINISTERIAL

1. ACCORDING ONLY RECENTLY RETURNED GOR OFFICIAL,
OAU MINISTERIAL FOCUSED ON ARAB-AFRICAN COOPERATION AND
SOUTH AFRICA. FOLLOWING COMMENTS FURNISHED AS EMB NOT
AWARE OTHER REPORTING:

A. ARAB-AFRICAN COOPERATION - GOR OFFICIAL NOTED
THAT ALTHOUGH ARAB BILATERAL AID TO AFRICA HAS
INCREASED, ARAB STATES HAVE STILL NEITHER RECOGNIZED
THEIR OWN RICHESSE NOR AFRICA'S VAST NEEDS. EVEN WHEN
AID EXTENDED, IMPLEMENTATION QUESTIONABLE BECAUSE OF
LACK ARAB FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL.

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THESE SHORTCOMINGS CAN BE PARTIALLY OFFSET BY JOINT ARAB

ACTIVITY WITH WESTERN BANKS AND FIRMS BUT APPROACH POSES POLITICAL PROBLEMS FOR SOME AFRICAN AND ARAB STATES. OAU THUS SEEKING FORMALLY COMMIT ARAB STATES TO LARGE-SCALE MULTILATERAL PROGRAM. THE OAU CTTEE OF SEVEN HAS BEEN EXPANDED TO TWELVE AND MANDATED TO STUDY TYPES OF PROGRAMS AND MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS (HE NOTED BURUNDI TAPPED AS CTTEE MEMBER TO REPRESENT LAND-LOCKED AFRICAN STATES). CTTEE OF TWELVE HAS NO DEADLINE OR SCHEDULE BUT A SPECIAL OAU SESSION MAY BE HELD AT A FUTURE DATE. FOLLOWING HIS BELATED ARRIVAL KIGALI WEEKEND MARCH 2, FONMIN NSEKALIJE NOTED ON RADIO RWANDA THAT PROBLEM OF ARAB-AFRICAN COOPERATION "CRUCIAL" FOR AFRICA AND "EVEN RWANDA" HAD JOINED ITS VOICE TO OTHER DELEGATIONS IN EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE OF AN OVERALL ACCORD BETWEEN AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND THE ARAB LEAGUE.

B. SOUTH AFRICA - FONMIN DURING RADIO COMMENTS ALSO ALLUDED TO AFRICAN LIBERATION NOTING SOUTH AFRICA UNDERTOOK ON "EVE" OF OAU SESSION "DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES WITH CERTAIN AFRICAN COUNTRIES". SPEAKING ELLIPTICALLY, HE NOTED IT WAS "PARTICULARLY AGREE-ABLE" TO THE GOR TO WITNESS THE "DEEP INTELLIGENCE AND SERIOUSNESS" WITH WHICH AFRICAN COUNTRIES REALIZED THAT THIS MATTER WAS OF THE "HIGHEST IMPORTANCE" AND WARRANTED A SPECIAL FUTURE OAU SESSION. GOR OFFICIAL NOTED PRIVATELY THAT SOME RADICAL AFRICAN DELS EXPRESSED CONCERN OAU UNITY BEING DISRUPTED BY MALAWI, IVORY COAST, LIBERIA AND OTHER SOUTH AFRICAN CONTACTS. ENTIRE MATTER WOULD THUS BE AIRED AT SPECIAL SESSION ON SOUTH AFRICA TO BE HELD ABOUT APRIL 10 IN DAR ES SALAAM. HE TERMED TOTALLY "UNREALISTIC" BBC RADIO SPECULATION THAT SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT BE INVITED APPEAR OR JOIN OAU. FRITTS

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